

Nonkilling Arts Research Committee (NKARC) Letter: March-April, 2017

Dear NKARC members and friends,

Grateful thanks for your heartfelt tributes and messages of condolences you have sent on the loss of our dear colleague Professor Glenn Durland Paige, age 87 who left us on 22nd January. A Public Memorial will be held in his honour in Honolulu on March 11 at the Murgasya Buddhist temple. See the attached obituary published by the family in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. Spontaneous memorials have been also held by Nonkilling colleagues at their respective universities in India, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Nebraska, USA. Additionally, there are remarkable tributes on CGNK website: www.nonkilling.org from friends reflecting Glenn Paige's global nonkilling spirit. Glenn used to say: "Nonkilling culture crosses all the lines".

I include in this special issue the select messages/tributes received from NKArtsRC colleagues reminding how Glenn inspired us in different ways. In addition, the Letter comprises your contributions on Nonkilling poetry, music, cinema, journalism, visual arts etc.

1. NKARC Tributes to Glenn D. Paige (1929-2017)

From Leslie Sponsel:

Nonkilling instead of Killing

The Road Not Taken - Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
 And sorry I could not travel both
 And be one traveler, long I stood
 And looked down one as far as I could
 To where it bent in the undergrowth;
 Then took the other, as just as fair,
 And having perhaps the better claim,
 Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
 Though as for that the passing there
 Had worn them really about the same,
 And both that morning equally lay
 In leaves no step had trodden black.
 Oh, I kept the first for another day!
 Yet knowing how way leads on to way,

I doubted if I should ever come back.
 I shall be telling this with a sigh
 Somewhere ages and ages hence:
 Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-
 I took the one less traveled by,
 And that has made all the difference.

From Ada Aharoni (IFLAC Founding President):

"It is with great sorrow that I read of the passing away of my friend and colleague Glenn Paige. We met at a Peace Congress in South Korea fifteen years ago, and when I heard his speech about the crucial importance of NONKILLING in our dangerous nuclear times, we became friends and I became his staunch admirer.

We at IFLAC, have learnt a great deal from this great Nonkilling peace leader, and we will continue his road until his aim of a nonkilling global village becomes a reality."

From Kathrin Winkler:

"I just finished reading Bernie Glassman's book 'Bearing Witness' and how many good people are doing such good work, as did Professor Paige. I loved this quote from the book and share it with you. He tells one of his favourite stories about 'what is a peacemaker':

"Making peace, making things whole is an endless task. There are many definitions of a peacemaker.....a peacemaker, knowing that the well needs water, climbs the mountain to reach the snow, gets a spoonful of snow, comes down, drops it into the well and goes back up the mountain. She knows that the task is endless but she does as much of it as she can, day after day."

From Lucien Mabwe:

Pastor Lucien Mabwe is the founder of Glenn Paige NonKilling School (GPNKS) and Nonkilling Center in Kazimia, Democratic Republic of Congo. One of the students Abdallah Omar on behalf of the children sent the following prayer song while Glenn was ill. Click on below to see youtube of primary school children singing:

GPNKS Song for Papa Glenn 002.avi

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4iQUlurMQVIQIJ3UzR5cXBYa00/view?usp=drive_web

[https://lh6.googleusercontent.com/Kudun2_Fu4gOVufkJRAsCwb-vWIQEz_m11J5lq8jll5o2tXkYtDuPw=w1200-h630-p]
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4iQUlurMQVIQIJ3UzR5cXBYa00/view?usp=drive_web

GPNKS Song for Papa Glenn

002.avi https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4iQUlurMQVIQIJ3UzR5cXBYa00/view?usp=drive_web

drive.google.com

Glenn Paige Nonkilling School Song:

"We love you God, we lift our hands
 to worship you and pray for Glenn, Glenn Paige's illness,
 Glenn Paige recovering
 O Lord, O Lord we pray for Glenn Paige recovering
 We thank you Lord. Amen"

From Rashida Khanam and young Samaah:

Another tribute from a younger voice, that of Rashida Khanam's 8 yr old grand daughter from Bangladesh who regarded Professor Paige as her "friend and Grandpa". Prof. Khanam is currently engaged in setting up a Center for Women, Nonkilling and Development at the University of Chittagong. Samaah sings a Bangla song of Nobel Laureate Rabindra Nath Tagore, click on:

<https://youtu.be/BOAqc3C0pL4>

Never be Afraid

I shall never be afraid,
 I shall not die before my time of death;
 To face a storm while at the helm of a sail is a routine for me,
 I shall not cry in vain.

Upholding head high, I am ready for any challenge,
 Choosing an easier way will be disappointing,
 That's not my intention.
 I shall continue to seek a path, consistent with my
 belief.

This is not a time to hide in a corner when one is confronted with danger.

I shall never be afraid.

(translated from Bangla by Rashida Khanam)

From Clay Edwards:

Thank you so much for this tribute to a true gentleman who brings out the best and helps us through our most difficult moments. I agree that aesthetics in philosophy and politics sets standards of conduct that we all should believe in as the very truth of existence - the bringing, the birth, the generation, generating nature, character and quality of life/living...The idea is to generate, wherever and however we are, because morale and morals are in the doing, of things big and small and in between. I think Glenn understood that what he was doing had to be done in any scale, by each and every one of us, to recognize beauty in action...We speak of form and leave the formless to the creator. We invent and discover and bring birth, in remembrance of the creator, ever moving, in cause, in living, birthing, generating in any and all form. I think Glenn was - and is- and will be- about all these things, generating faith, hope, morals and morale, in good cheer. This is what he does and we all must remember him and all others - in form in that spirit. There is no other way and the creator will patiently teach us this, as long as it takes. Let us be artists, scientists, workers, inventors, explorers, makers of worlds - all human. Glenn's memory is all about that - rejection of the incompetence that kills."

From Fr. Barwende:

"Sincere and profound condolences for Dr Glenn and all CGNK family!

I am profoundly sadden by the news of the passing away of Dr Glenn. I am very sorry. As Roman Catholic priest, I will celebrate masses for his repose. This is the only gift I can offer him from now. My prayers and blessings upon you and closed staff who have got the responsibility to carry and keep on the fire of Founder Glenn. From Africa, you can trust me to spreading and campaigning this living and divine philosophy. God, Buddha, Jesus, and Ancestors are from our side.

I will get back for the projects of translation and survey. I have already downloaded many elements I am using for formations in Bangui.

My blessings upon you and all the family of CGNK for Dr Glenn. He has been a star for all of us. May God and Ancestors receive a great Son of Living God in Heaven !
Peace upon Glenn Paige for ever!"

From K. Sohail:

"I just finished my autobiography entitled THE SEEKER in which I dedicate a page to Glenn Paige addressing him as scholar 'Non-Killing'. Here it is:
[Khizr in my autobiography is my alias, the seeker: www.drsohail.com]

Khizr was fascinated how the Internet connected him with people that he would have never met otherwise. One day he received an email from a scholar named Non-killing. He had read Khizr's book on peace and felt a special connection with him. When Khizr called him, he found out that Non-killing was in his eighties. Non-killing was very affectionate towards Khizr and connected him with peace lovers from all over the world. When they created a peace anthology they included Khizr's poems, stories and essays and translated them into other languages. Khizr felt honored.

Khizr was impressed by Non-killing, who was a social scientist and had dedicated his life to collecting biological and psychological, social and political evidence to prove that human beings are basically peaceful beings and if they become enlightened and make wise choices they could create a peaceful world together.

To thank friend Non-killing, Khizr sent him the following poem as a gift.

SUFFERING

We are suffering
 We are all suffering
 We are all silently suffering
 As children we experienced
 Neglect and abuse in our families
 Anger and resentment in our schools
 Violence and war in our communities
 But now we are adults
 And moving from darkness into light
 We are becoming aware of our suffering
 Now we are realizing
 We have choices
 We can change
 Our thinking and our lives
 Our families and our communities
 We can transform our breakdowns into breakthroughs
 Now we can make sure
 Our children and grandchildren
 Have better lives than we did
 They can be brought up
 By nurturing and caring parents and grandparents
 By empathic and compassionate teachers and principals
 By wise and peaceful neighbors and elders
 So that they grow up

To become
 Happy and healthy, loving and wise adults
 And create a peaceful world together
 It is a peace dream
 But we need to dream
 Before our dream becomes a reality.”

From Koozma Tarasoff:

“Colleague and friend Glenn D. Paige (1929-2017), died in peace in Honolulu, Hawaii, January 22, 2017. He was a professor of political science University of Hawaii, and Founder and Chair of the Center for Global Nonkilling (CGNK). He is best remembered for developing and promoting nonkilling. For full in memoriam see link : goo.gl/kvlbqM

<http://goo.gl/kvlbqM>

From Christina Kemmer:

“You mention that Glenn left us "around noon". High noon is a time when we have no shadow and are deemed closest to God. It is fitting that Glenn released himself in the comfort and peace of knowing that his work is done and will continue through you, all of us, and many others. Our prayers, condolences, and deepest of love”

From Neelkanta Radhakrishnan:

Dr. Radhakrishnan in Trivandrum, Kerala, India organized at Gandhi Bhavan, an art exhibition of sketches and paintings by Anil Kattachira, dedicated to Professor Paige. For the exhibit, click on:

<https://goo.gl/photos/SzKtWbYXN1csjyRt8>

From Francisco Gomes de Matos:

On an extraordinary Pa(i)ge:
 A rhymed reflection by Francisco Gomes de Matos

In Global Political Science history there stands out Glenn D. Paige for having written and disseminated an extraordinary,inspiring page:

In 2002 he launched more than a book : a transformative Nonkilling Age which has made that visionary be remembered as a peacebuilding sage

In Honolulu, Hawaii, the Center for Global Nonkilling he founded
 A far-sighted initiative on his seminal concept strongly grounded

Physically, Glenn Paige is no longer here
since the early morning of January 22, this year

Dignihumanizingly, his legacy will always be here:
In our global efforts, Killing and Violence let's never fear!

For additional tributes from Mairead Corrigan Maguire, Johan Galtung, David Krieger,
and Chaiwat Satha-Anand, click on: www.nonkilling.org.

1(a) Nonkilling Hiroshima Award presented to Anoop Swarup on behalf of CGNK

Dr. Anoop Swarup, Chair of the Center for Global Nonkilling was honored on December 20, 2016, with the Soka Gakkai Hiroshima Peace Award at the Hiroshima Ikeda Peace Memorial Hall. It was a recognition of his dedication and service for a nonkilling world. Besides the address on the conferment ceremony, Anoop was also invited to deliver the lecture "Give Nonkilling a Chance" at Soka University where he explained the vision of a "Nonkilling Human Revolution". For his full address, click on:

<http://nonkilling.org/center/2016/12/25/cgnk-chair-receives-hiroshima-peace-award/>

Anoop concluded his Hiroshima speech with the following poetic reflection:

"...Indeed, it is this path of the Buddha so well elaborated by iconic personalities such as Ikeda, Gandhi, King, Paige that will bring lasting Nonkilling change for Peace perhaps in our times. It is for our future generations that I dedicate this verse I penned in my book of poems "Aloha":

In our times of mindless terror, killings, revenge, and fight,

Ever thought of destitution, suffering and children in Fright,

Let us pledge and rebuild bonds, bridges that divide and blight,

With Buddha, Gandhi, King, Mandela, Ikeda and Paige in sight,

In infinite reverence to life, let each one of us be the knight,

Mankind's creativity to guide, billionsof us to advanceand light,

Do not despair & dread the echoes, do trust our conscience be right,

With faith & prayer, let Peace & Prosperity be humanity's delight,

Like the zillion stars at night, be the hope for humanity so bright,

Forever in nonkilling and peace, eternal betriumph of god's might

-- Anoop Swarup

(I came across a 2001 Dialogue between Prof Ikeda, President SGI and Prof. Glenn Paige on wide ranging themes of abolition of war, nonviolence, and nuclear disarmament, click on: <http://www.sgiquarterly.org/global2001Jan-1.html>)

2. Music and Nonkilling:

(a) **Nonkilling song - Prayer of Mothers:** Israeli - Palestinian mothers sing the peace march song of hope by Yael Deckelbaum : click on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyFM-pWdqrY>

(b) **“The Music of Strangers: Silk Road Ensemble”** (2015) is a wonderful documentary that was recently shown on CBC Passionate Eye. The doc shows that fusion of music is not just east-west but a global phenomenon and how it can help to bridge gaps and bring unity through harmony in diversity. The questions the documentary raises through music e.g what's that space between life and death, how do you recover from fear of death, how to inspire, imagine , learn to create through music? We can collaborate to cooperate to create! For trailer, click on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26Ofj4hOVpA>

3. Cinema and Nonkilling:

Two very well crafted feature films stood out for their strong Nonkilling inspirations, one about significance of language and communication in preventing conflict, and the other how proper mentoring can nurture ‘girl power’:

(i) **ARRIVAL** by Denis Villeneuve is a sci-fi movie in a contemporary setting. It’s about a linguistics professor Louise Banks who is tasked with interpreting the language of the apparent alien visitors when twelve mysterious spacecraft pods appear around the world. Movie shows that language can be the ‘weapon’ for resolving conflicts. For trailer, click on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFMo3UJ4B4g>

(ii) **QUEEN OF KATWE** by Mira Nair is a film about a young girl from slums in Uganda who sees her world rapidly change after being introduced to the game of chess under a empathic mentor-teacher. Trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEsz6o50wrY>
The movie reminded me of another true story film from India, *DANGAL* that I happened to see recently. In Dangal, a former wrestler father mentors his two daughters to

become national wrestling champions in a male dominated sport and society. For trailer of Dangal click on: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_7YIGv9u1g .

Both movies are excellent dramatisation of true stories of hope and on the value of mentorship to nurture and accomplish dreams.

4. Literature and Nonkilling

(a) Book on a Nonkilling Heroine: Sister Felicitas Niyitegeka of Rwanda

NKARC colleague Father Jean d'Amour Dusengumuremy, a catholic priest in Byumba Diocese, Rwanda, and a member of CGNK's Nonkilling Spiritual Traditions Research Committee, has devoted past years researching the life of Felicitas Niyetegeka, a national heroine in Rwanda. During the 1994 Genocide, Sister Felicitas Niyetegeka was director of the Centre Saint-Pierre in Gisenyi, where she helped numerous Tutsi to escape by giving them shelter and helping to cross the border to Congo. CGNK Co-sponsors Rwandan Tribute to Felicitas Niyitegeka. For more, click on: <http://nonkilling.org/center/2016/11/02/cgnk-co-sponsors-rwandan-tribute-to-felicitas-niyitegeka/>

(b) Leo Tolstoy's 'War and Peace' and Donald Trump

Author Ani Kokobobo suggests that Tolstoy's *War and Peace* may offer an understanding about the failure of notion of conquest when people unite. NKARC Colleague Koozma Tarasoff pointed to this insightful perspective through an interesting article by Ani Kokobobo, Assistant Professor of Literature at University of Kansas. For more, click on: <https://theconversation.com/how-tolstoys-war-and-peace-can-inspire-those-who-fear-trumps-america-71312>

5. Visual Arts, Documentary and Nonkilling

(i) Filmmaker Jake Chapman deconstructs Spanish painter Goya's famous paintings about horrors of the Spanish -Franco war. As he points out, the power of a good painting is in its ability to provoke us to think. "Goya undoubtedly produced some of the most powerful images in modern history but I think to limit the work by force idealism is violence to the complexity of its meaning. At the heart of these images is a paradox that the violence depicted is in fact essential to the very morality that transgresses. In other words in order to be good you have to see some bad things the idea of us returning to the disasters of war remaking works associated with it." For more click on: <http://www.documentaryhome.com/wp/goja-exposed-with-jake-chapman-bbc-documentary-2016/>

(ii) The following quote from sculptor artist Louise Bourgeois made me think of violence in our private lives: "To be an artist is a guarantee to your fellow humans that the wear and tear of living will not let you become a murderer," the great French-American artist Louise Bourgeois (December 11, 1911- May 31, 2010)

Louise Bourgeois often spoke of her anger at her father (and mother as well) to the point of rage and that her art had a lot to do with being an outlet for it. For her, art had a 'containing' effect. As an artist friend reminded me the art can be so multi faceted.

(iii) Peace on Earth Film Festival, Chicago, March 10-12

The 9th film festival is presenting this year more than 30 films, including a fascinating documentary, *A Bold Peace <<http://aboldpeace.com/>>*, co-directed by Matthew Eddy and Michael Dreiling, which tells the story of <http://peaceonearthfilmfestival.org/> Costa Rica's risky, extraordinary journey of living without a military — of transcending war and remaining (for 68 years and counting) an example of the future that is possible for the whole planet. For more on the festival and this film, see NKARC colleague Bob Koehler's article, click on <http://commonwonders.com/costa-ricas-peace-journey/>

6. Poetry and Nonkilling

(a) Questionnaire

by Wendell Berry (c)

http://writersalmanac.publicradio.org/author.php?auth_id=1441

How much poison are you willing to eat for the success of the free market and global trade? Please name your preferred poisons.

For the sake of goodness, how much evil are you willing to do? Fill in the following blanks with the names of your favorite evils and acts of hatred.

What sacrifices are you prepared to make for culture and civilization? Please list the monuments, shrines, and works of art you would most willingly destroy

In the name of patriotism and the flag, how much of our beloved land are you willing to desecrate? List in the following spaces

the mountains, rivers, towns, farms
you could most readily do without.

State briefly the ideas, ideals, or hopes,
the energy sources, the kinds of security;
for which you would kill a child.

Name, please, the children whom
you would be willing to kill.

(Thank you, Rich)

(b) Alice bin Wonderland

(Or, The Mad hatters Boston Tea Party With special guests):

by Evelyn Voigt

From Boston tea gladness, and McCarthy time madness
to Osama bin badness, and Bush era sadness,
we try to make sense of the mess that we're in.
Seeking reprieve, we try to retrieve
the hat from the mirror, the rabbit within,
to see if indeed we've learned anything.

*And there, all the while, near Trade Center towers
near bombs in the desert like fire work showers,
the mother still comforts her child: "Hush little baby, don't you
cry,
mama's gonna sing you a lullaby".*

For my part, I just want to know where Alice hid the card.

You know, the card with the clue, to what we could do

in this topsy bin turvy, bin saviour,
bin scurvy, bin world, me and you;
Must the cups all be empty and breaking and, gee!
Must their shards tear our flesh?
All we want is some tea!

That bothers me!
 Tell me, where will it all end,
 in this Osama bin Ladened,
 bin Bushed and bin hardened,
 bin holding my breath,
 bin domino theoried and brainwashed to death
 world that we're in.
 Oh! Where will it end, when there's clearly enough --
 in fact one could say, an excess of stuff -
 for all of our needs
 in this topsy bin turvy, bin saviour bin scurvy,
 bin world that we're in;
 Will it end in the breaking of bread
 regardless of creed?
 And maybe, just maybe... according to need?

*And there, all the while, near Trade Center towers
 near bombs in the desert like fire work showers
 the mother still comforts her child:
 "Hush little baby, don't you cry,
 mama's gonna sing you a lullaby".* © Evelyn Voigt 2003

Thank you, Evelyn.

7. Journalism and Nonkilling:

Three excellent opinion pieces by NKARC colleagues for their insight and throwing light on important themes not covered elsewhere

(i) An insightful commentary by Terence McNamee on emerging dystopia of a creaking culture in US White House linking Samuel Huntington's Clash of Civilizations theory to Donald Trump's chief strategist Bannon's worldview. Click on:

<http://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/opinion/2017-02-15-new-us-administration-finds-political-foundation-in-creaky-culture-theory/>

(ii) Bob Kohler’s excellent weekly op-eds relate to culture of nonkilling peace. I was greatly touched by his piece, “**The Birth of a Movement**” reminding us that civil resistance is important and alive. In this opinion piece on the Women’s Global March that went viral (673 events/marches that weekend around the planet, with nearly 5 million participants in 83 countries), he writes:

“But it was also, oh Lord, joyous — in a scraped raw kind of way, you might say. For instance, the young woman with the bullhorn, who led the chant where I was walking, had almost no voice left as she shouted “Show me what democracy looks like!” But as soon as the marchers shouted back, “This is what democracy looks like!” she threw her vocal cords back into it, and somehow, oh, somehow, I could feel it: the birth of a movement.” For his full report, click on: <http://commonwonders.com/the-birth-of-a-movement/http://commonwonders.com/the-birth-of-a-movement/>

(iii) The persecution of Myanmar’s **Rohingya Muslim** minority is barely covered in news media, colleague Mairead Maguire together with her Nobel Peace Laureate colleagues urges action on this continuing ethnic cleansing in Myanmar. For full appeal click on: <https://www.transcend.org/tms/2017/01/rohingya-in-burmamyanmar-nobel-laureates-urge-action-over-ethnic-cleansing/>

Last Word:

Rhymed Reflection by FranciscoGomes de Matos

Noriko Ishihara responded to Francisco's reflection -- “Glenn, A Spiritual Presence” with the comment: "The news saddens me, but since you sent me the last update, I've been thinking of him and his work. I cited it at AMPRA conference and someone referred to it in her comment. I learned greatly from his work.

May his soul rest in peace.

Noriko

GLENN: A SPIRITUAL PRESENCE

By his friend and disciple Francisco Gomes de Matos, Recife,Brazil

Physically, GLENN we no longer can see
but Spiritually, here HE will always be

In solidarity, a tear we have shed
for the humanizing work GLENN led

NONKILLING is GLENN’s unique legacy
Ever-inspiring our global, sustained advocacy

GLENN served Humankind extraordinarily well
About his NONKILLING PEACE in all languages let`s tell !

My deep gratitude to all who contributed or pointed to the material for
this special dedication to our friend and colleague Professor Glenn D. Paige.

Looking forward to your inspirations and comments as always.

Nonkilling Regards,
Bill

Bill (Balwant) Bhaneja
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www.nonkilling.org

"Nonkilling art explores the spirit and practice of how to prevent,
respond to, and to improve individual, social, and global well-being beyond
killing." - Glenn D. Paige

"Nonkilling Culture crosses all the lines." - Glenn D. Paige

== Nonkilling is THE measure of Human progress==